

Equally Divided among my four Sons or their heirs—My Books I allow to be Equally Divided amongst my Eight Children or their heirs.—I allow my son James to have my Stock of Hogs, and in Consideration of the former bequeath my son James is to furnish my daughter Betsy & her son William a reasonable Supply of flour or Meal & Meat during the time She May Live single or untill William be put to a trade.—My son James & my Daughter Betsy to have my loom & all the tacklings.—To my Grand Daughter Betsy McKemy Cooper I Will & Bequeath One good young Cow.—The Ballance of my property that I may Die in possession of I allow to be sold at public sale the proceeds of Which together with what money may be on hand I allow to be Equally Divided amongst my Eight Children or their Heirs.—And in Case the money is drawn for my services during the Revolution war I allow the heirs of my son Joseph & the heirs of my Daughter Jane to have thirty Dollars that is to say the Heirs of Joseph to have fifteen Dollars & the heirs of Jane to have fifteen Dollars to be Equally Divided Between them.—Lastly I Constitute and appoint my son James & James Cooper executors of this my Last Will and Testament. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal this third day of December One thousand Eight Hundred & Thirty two & 57 year of the Commonwealth.

Joseph Wooddell Senr.

seal

Witnesses present: Jacob Gum, Samuel Given, Patrick Bruffey, Jacob Warwick.

Several of the objects mentioned in Joseph's two wills are now in the possession of Clyde Wardel Wooddell (1918- ), great-great-great-grandson of Joseph & son of Forrest. On my visit to Green Bank, I was shown Joseph's desk, clock, plane, auger, & other tools & household items. One of the most interesting items was the lock & key, still in good working order, from the front door of Joseph's log house. Most of these items were probably fashioned by Joseph himself & manifest a high caliber of workmanship. I hope that these items & Joseph's papers will remain in the family for a long time or be given to a museum with a good historical collection concerning West Virginia.

Charles & Liz, the two slaves mentioned in the will, were buried on the Wooddell farm. Mr. Forrest Wooddell, Mr. Hamed, & I are fairly certain we found their graves marked by field stones on a hill top. Charles lived to an advanced age—perhaps over 100—and in his last years spent most of his time fishing in a spot in Deer Creek which is still called the "Charley Hole". The two slaves were offered their freedom several times, but refused it. After the death of Joseph, the other heirs turned their interests in the slaves over to James Wooddell, who remained on the home place, as is shown in the following document in the family papers:

Know all men by these presents that I James Cooper & Nancy his wife Jane Galford Betsey Wooddell & William Slaven & Peggy his wife for and in Consideration of the Sum of one Dollar to them in hand paid By James Wooddell at & Before the sealing and delivery of these presents (the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge) have Bargained and sold & By these presents do grant Bargain & sell to the said James Wooddell a Certain female Negro Slave named Liss aged Forty years to have & to hold the Said Negro Slave to the only proper use of the said James Wooddell his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns forever, & the said James Cooper & Nancy his wife Jane Galford Betsey Wooddell & William Slaven & Peggy his wife for themselves & their heirs Executors & Administrators the said Negro Slave to the said James Wooddell against the Claim or Claims of all and Every person whatsoever will warrant and for Ever defend in witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & affixed our seals this day of 1835.

James Cooper  
Nancy Cooper

seal  
seal

Jane Galford  
Betsy Wooddell

seal  
seal

According to the James & Jane Wooddell family Bible, Elizabeth died on April 6, 1820, & her husband Joseph died on July 26, 1834. The date of Joseph's death is confirmed by a letter giving the same date in his file at the National Archives. The place of Joseph & Elizabeth's burial is not known. Forrest Wooddell was able to locate the graves of the slaves because his father, many years ago, had pointed out the spot, but he does not remember ever being shown where his great-great-grandparents were buried.

#### Notes

My present address (March 1970) is: Dr. Homer C. Cooper, 145 Pendleton Drive, Athens, Georgia 30601. Any new address can be obtained from: Alumni Association, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, or Alumni Records, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. I welcome new Wooddell information or inquiries at any time!

Mr. Forrest Wooddell of Green Bank, West Virginia, whose consultation and Wooddell papers contributed greatly to the preparation of this paper, died September 4, 1967. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Neva Belle Taylor Wooddell, and their four children: Clyde Wardel Wooddell (born 1918), Forrest Harold Wooddell (born 1928), James Edward Wooddell (born 1931), and Mary Margaret Wooddell (born 1939).

The National Archives, Washington, D. C. 20408, has Revolutionary War service files for: (1) Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834), whose file is S.F.11883. (2) His brother, Thomas Wooddell (1759-1839), who spelled the surname differently, file 11697. The National Archives also has the documents by which Joseph Wooddell took possession of his land grant, for Revolutionary War services, in Pike County, Ohio, in 1822, then transferred the land to his son, Joseph Wooddell (1789-1829).

Further information concerning the Revolutionary War services of Joseph Wooddell (spelled Waddell, Waddle, Woodle, etc., in some of the records) and his commanders, named on Pages 2-4 of this paper, can be found in: (1) Joseph T. McAllister, VIRGINIA MILITIA IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, McAllister Publishing Company, Hot Springs, Virginia, 1913. Library of Congress call number: E263.V8M13. See pages 10, 18-19, 182-183, & 185. (2) John H. Gwathmey, HISTORICAL REGISTER OF VIRGINIANS IN THE REVOLUTION, Dietz Press, Richmond, Virginia, 1938. Library of Congress call number: E263.V8G9. See pages 83, 126, 223, 310, 556, 797, 844, 865, & 871.

#### References

Several sources, enumerated below, furnish additional information--not always accurately!--concerning Thomas Wooddell (1709-1784) & Alice, Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) & Elizabeth (died 1820), and their descendants and collateral relatives.

Wooddell

Although these volumes are available in many major libraries across the nation, I have added the Library of Congress call number, as I did to the McAllister and Gwathmey volumes cited above, to all but the first reference so that the reader who cannot find a given volume in a nearby library can order photocopies for a reasonable fee. To order photocopies, give the complete reference, including volume (where necessary), pages, and call number, from: Photoduplication Section, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540.

01. THE VALLEY VIRGINIAN, January 21, 1886, Volume 20, Number 43, published by S. M. Yost & Son at Staunton, Virginia. This issue of the newspaper contains an article, "The Wooddell Family in Augusta," written by John Marshall Wooddell (1836-1917), grandson of John Wooddell (1767-1852) and great-grandson of Thomas Wooddell (1709-1784).
02. Lyman Chalkley, CHRONICLES OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH SETTLEMENT IN VIRGINIA, Three volumes, Commonwealth Printing Company, Rosslyn, Virginia, 1912-1913. Library of Congress: F232.A9A9. Abstracts from the original court records of Augusta County. See the index at the end of each volume for Wooddell, Waddell, Waddle, Woodle, etc. In many libraries, these volumes are cataloged under Augusta County rather than Chalkley.
03. William T. Price, HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, Price Brothers, Marlinton, West Virginia, 1901. Library of Congress: F247.P7P9. Partial index at the back of the book. I found Wooddell references on pages 96, 124, 125, 131, 146, 147, 148, 163, 238, 239, 377, 391, 398, 410, 423, 427, 429, 433, 444, & 476. Perhaps you will find additional ones.
04. Thomas C. Miller & Hu Maxwell, WEST VIRGINIA AND ITS PEOPLE, Three volumes, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, New York, 1913. Library of Congress: F241.M65. Volume 3, pages 876-877, sketch of Joseph A. Wooddell (born 1867), and pages 983-984, sketch of John Thomas Cooper (1814-1878).
05. James M. Callahan, HISTORY OF WEST VIRGINIA, Three volumes, American Historical Society, Chicago, 1923. Library of Congress: F241.C15. Volume 2, page 598, sketch of James Walker Wooddell (1873-1953). Volume 3, page 6, sketch of Victor Fry Cooper (1873-1928), and page 86, sketches of Bantz Slaven Wooddell (1871-1934) & William Lawrence Wooddell (1876-1944).
06. Minnie K. Lowther, HISTORY OF RITCHIE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, Wheeling News Litho. Company, Wheeling, West Virginia, 1911. Library of Congress: F247.R6L8. Pages 278-280, sketch of James Harvey Cooper (1810-1881). Pages 530-531, sketch of Joseph A. Wooddell (born 1867).
07. Morris P. Shawkey, WEST VIRGINIA IN HISTORY, LIFE, LITERATURE, AND INDUSTRY, Five volumes, Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, 1928. Library of Congress: F241.S534. Volume 3, pages 26-27, sketch of James Walker Wooddell (1873-1953).
08. Philip M. Conley, THE WEST VIRGINIA ENCYCLOPEDIA, West Virginia Publishing Company, Charleston, 1929. Library of Congress: F241.C75. Page 181, sketches of Marvin Cooper (1883-1955) & William C. Cooper (born 1884). Page 1025, sketch of Joseph A. Wooddell (born 1867).
09. HISTORY OF LOWER SCIOTO VALLEY, OHIO, Inter-State Publishing Company, Chicago, 1884. Library of Congress: F497.S3H6. Pages 821 & 823, sketch of William Galford (1785-1824) & wife Jane Wooddell (1791-1870).



Wooddell

10. Sheridan Ploughe, HISTORY OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, Two volumes, B. F. Bowen & Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1917. Library of Congress: F687.R3P7. Volume 2, pages 652-653, sketch of Charles Newton Wooddell (1861-1936).
11. Homer C. Cooper, "James Cooper (1780-1845) and Nancy Agnes Wooddell (1785-1861) of Virginia and West Virginia," Nine pages, August 1959, revised April 1968. Library of Congress: CT275.C775143C6.
12. Homer C. Cooper, "Cooper, McKemy, Ferrell/Farrell, Wooddell, Gothard, Wilson, and Patton Families," Seven pages, January 1, 1969. Library of Congress: CS71.C777 1969.
13. Homer C. Cooper, "Whitman and Rodgers Families of New York and West Virginia," Six pages, February 24, 1968. Library of Congress: CS71.W614 1968.

Change on page 2:

(3) James Wooddell (1751-1814), married June 28, 1786, to Ann Stephenson (born 1766), daughter of Adam Stephenson (1735-1789), and settled in Pickaway County, Ohio.

Note the change in the order of the children on page 2.

concerning Thomas, Sr.,  
us spellings of the fam-  
ect that a great deal  
referred to in the Augusta

To: My Wooddell Relatives  
 From: Dr. Homer C. Cooper, 145 Pendleton Drive, Athens, Georgia 30601  
 Re: Our ancestors, Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) and wife Elizabeth of Augusta County, Virginia, and Pocahontas County, West Virginia

As many of you know, I am preparing a brief paper concerning the history of our Cooper, Wooddell, Whitman, & McKemy ancestors, & plan to distribute copies among you when it is completed. I hope you will read this rough draft carefully & let me know if you have suggestions or additional material to add.

This paper will be concerned with Joseph Wooddell and his wife, Elizabeth, two of our ancestors of the seventh generation. My principal source of information concerning them consists of the Wooddell family papers, now in the possession of Mr. & Mrs. Forrest Wooddell of Green Bank, Pocahontas County, West Virginia. I had the pleasure of cordial visits with the Wooddell family in September, 1958, and am grateful to them for granting permission to copy the family documents quoted hereinafter. I am also deeply indebted to Mr. Rockford N. Hamed, a native of Green Bank but now a resident of Alexandria, Virginia, and his parents for very generous hospitality, including driving me from Washington to Green Bank, introducing me to the Wooddells, sharing their home and extensive knowledge of Pocahontas County, and making the visit to Green Bank enjoyable in every possible way. Any merit this section has is due to the generosity of the Hameds and the Wooddells.

In addition to the Wooddell family papers, several other sources have been consulted: a file in the National Archives concerning Joseph's Revolutionary War Services, Joseph's will in the Pocahontas County courthouse, U. S. census records, and scattered references in Chalkley and Price. In quoting from these sources I will spell the family name as rendered by the county or census official or family member who prepared the document under consideration at the moment, so the reader will find Woodle, Woodell, Waddle, and other variations scattered throughout the following pages. Joseph himself used the form "Wooddell" consistently for his signature and this spelling is used on the headstone over his father's grave.

I also received information by correspondence from members of the family too numerous to acknowledge by name. I hope they will consider this essay part payment for their kindness.

Joseph Wooddell was born about 1752, but I cannot establish the exact date or place of his birth. He gave his age as 80 in his sworn declaration of 1832 when qualifying for a Revolutionary War pension. He probably was born in Augusta County, Virginia and at least spent most of his early years there. Thomas Wooddell, Jr. (1759-1839), a younger brother of Joseph, testified that he (Thomas) was born in Augusta County in August, 1759, in his own declaration for a pension, so I am certain that if Joseph was not born in Augusta County, he at least was living there by the time he was seven years of age. If I can judge by land transactions abstracted in Chalkley and other evidence, the Wooddells must have lived in the North River District of Augusta County.

Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) was the son of Thomas Wooddell, Senior, and Alese (or Elise) Wooddell. Considerable information concerning Thomas, Sr., can be obtained by consulting references to him under various spellings of the family name in the indexes to the Chalkley volumes, and I suspect that a great deal more could be learned by examining the original documents referred to in the Augusta



County courthouse and the church records of the Mossy Creek Presbyterian Church (founded 1768), the Tinkling Spring Meeting House, and the Bethel Meeting House. According to the abstracts in Chalkley, Thomas, Sr., and Elias had the following children: James, Joseph (1752-1834), Thomas (born Augusta County, August, 1759; died Mason County, February 20, 1839), John (living Augusta County as late as 1833), Elizabeth, Martha, Jane, a fourth daughter, and possibly another son. In 1958, Mr. Rockford N. Hamed and I paid a brief visit to the cemetery of the Mossy Creek Presbyterian Church at Mossy Creek in the North River District section of Augusta County and found a headstone with the following inscription carved in crude but easily read letters: "Thomas Wooddell, died 1785, age 75". Over the years the monument had sunk so far into the ground that we could not determine whether similar information was given for his wife. According to Chalkley (I, 171), which cites Augusta County Will Book 6, page 429, the will of Thomas Waddle (Waddell), Sr., was written on September 6, 1784, and proved October 19, 1784, so it appears that the father of Joseph died in 1784. With regard to the discrepancy in the dates of death, I am inclined to believe that the engraver at Mossy Creek made a mistake of one year on the stone rather than that there were two elderly persons named Thomas Wooddell who died a year apart. Raising the sunken monument to determine whether the wife's name is given on the bottom half would provide one possible resolution to this issue.

Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) enlisted in the militia and saw service in the Revolutionary War. The National Archives in Washington D. C., has a file containing documents submitted many years later in support of his successful application for a pension under the act of June 7, 1832. One of the documents in this file is a series of sworn statements on his behalf, the first of which was made before the court of Pocahontas County in 1832 to describe his service:

State of Virginia, Pocahontas County--At a Court held for Pocahontas County at the Court house thereof on the 4th day of September 1832 before the justices of the peace of the said County--Present--Benjamin Tallman, William Cackley, Robert H. Beale and Jacob Lightner gentlemen Justices.

State of Virginia, Pocahontas County--On this 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared before the subscribers one of the commonwealth Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid. Joseph Wooddell a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832:

That he entered the service of the United States in the year 1774 under Captain George Moffett and was stationed at Clover Lick to defend the Frontier settlements against the Indians for the Term of six weeks, being then a resident of & drafted from the Militia of August County Virginia.

That he again was drafted from the Militia as aforesaid & from the County aforesaid in the year (month of September) 1777 under the command of Captain George Moffett, Colonel J. Dickinson Commandant, & taken to Point Pleasant on the Ohio River against the Indians and Stationed there a short time, Period not precisely recollected But not to exceed Three months from the time of entering service untill discharged.

That he again was drafted from the Militia aforesaid and from the County as aforesaid in the year 1778, Commanded by Captain Cooper, Colonel Nevil's Regiment, General Woodford's Brigade, and he was marched from his place of Residence as aforesaid through the States of Pennsylvania, New York & New Jersey against the English army and Continued in the Service as a private soldier for Term of one year & discharged in the state of New Jersey at Middle Brook in the month of February 1779.

That he again was drafted from the Militia as aforesaid and from the County aforesaid in the year 1781 under the Command of Captain John Givens, Colonel William Bowyer, General Campbell, and General Lafayette Commanding, & marched from his place of residence to Richmond Va. against the English army who were then laying in that place & from there following the aforesaid English army to Williamsburg being in the Battles at Hot water & James Town and Continued in the service for the term of three months being the first Lieutenant in the Company aforesaid and then was discharged and that he has no knowledge of any Person now living who could testify to his services as aforesaid stated.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension of any state.

Joseph Wooddell

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid and I do more over certify that the said Joseph Wooddell cannot from age and bodily infirmities attend the Court before the subscriber.

William Slaven

We John S. Blain, a clergyman, residing in the County of Pocahontas, and Benjamin Tallman residing in the same County, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Joseph Wooddell who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration; that we believe him to be eighty years of age, that he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

John S. Blain

Benny Tallman

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states. And the Court further certify that it appears to them that John S. Blain who has signed the preceeding certificate is a clergyman resident in the County aforesaid, and that Benjamin Tallman, who also signed the same is a resident in the said County and is a credible person, & that their statement is entitled to credit.

I Henry M. Moffett Clerk of the Court of Pocahontas County do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Joseph Wooddell for a pension.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County office this 4th day of September 1832.

seal

H. M. Moffett

Joseph's pension was not granted immediately & a supporting statement by his younger brother John was added to the same application, being sworn before the Augusta County court.

Augusta County to wit--I John Wooddell of the County of Augusta & State of Virginia after having first been sworn, Sayeth that I recollects of my brother Joseph Wooddell, now of the county of Pocahontas, having performed three



4

tours of service during the revolutionary war, & the indian war together.

His first tour of duty was against the Indians the particulars of time & place not distinctly recollected.

His second tour of service was for twelve months somewhere to the north; the place not recollected, nor can I recollect the officers that command on that occasion.

His third & last tour of service was below Richmond, the particular place not recollected. I think that the term of service was for three months. He was a Lieutenant in John Dickey's company. The superior officers not recollected and further this deponent sayeth not.

John Wooddell

Augusta County to wit—This day the above signed John Wooddell (sic) came before me a justice of the peace for the said county of Augusta and made oath to the above statement (sic), according to law. Witness my hand this eighth day of June 1833.

James A. McCue

I do farther certify that John Wooddell the subscribing witness to the above statement, lives in my immediate neighbourhood; that I have long been acquainted with him; that he is a credible person & that his statement may be relied on. Witness my hand & seal this 16th day of November 1833.

James A. McCue

Virginia to wit—I Jefferson Kinney, Clerk of the County Court of Augusta, do hereby certify that James A. McCue Esq. whose signatures appear to the within certificates, is a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid—duly commissioned and qualified according to law.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereto affixed my seal of office and subscribed my name this 6th day of December 1833 & in the 58th year of the Commonwealth.

Jefferson Kinney

The amended application was resubmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions, accompanied by the following letter in Joseph's own handwriting:

Travellers Repose Post Office  
Pocahontas County, June 28th, 1833

Sir

In compliance with your instructions under date April 2nd returning my Declaration for amendment—the Department require me to give a more detailed account of the service of 78. I state to you, as in the declaration, that I now know of no person living who served with me any Tour set fourth as it respects the service of 78. I have stated as fully as I now Recollect. I was in no Engagement during the years service and at the end of the year was dismissed by a General discharge By Genl. Washington Commander of the Army.

I herewith Enclose my Commission showing that I acted as first Lieutenant in the services of 81, under Competent authority, also enclosed you will have

the affidavit of a younger Brother who Recollects of my Different Enlistments & absence from my Residence.

I am now Laden with years & Infirmities & Consequently unable to attend the Court of my County to have a new Declaration drawn up & will Humbly Rest my case as the Papers now appear before the department.

I Remain your most Obedient & Humble Servt.

Joseph Wooddell

Unfortunately, the commission mentioned in Joseph's letter has been lost. His National Archives file contains a note to that effect:

S. F. 11883. Joseph Wooddell. Commission of Joseph Waddle as Lt. of a co. of Augusta Co. Va. militia, dated Aug. 15, 1780 and signed by Thomas Jefferson Governor has been removed from this case for safe keeping and may be found in the safe in the room of the Chief of the Old War & Navy Div. June 6, 1905.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was Governor of Virginia (1779-1781) before he became the third President of the United States (1801-1809). On the above note there is an added statement to the effect that Joseph's commission had been "sent to the Seattle Exposition, April 8, 1909". While visiting the National Archives, I inquired regarding the present whereabouts of the commission and was told that it was one of a number of documents sent to the Seattle Exposition for display which had not been returned to the National Archives. Chalkley (1, 216) cites Augusta County Order Book 17, page 265b, August 15, 1780, which records the fact that Joseph Waddle qualified as a lieutenant in John Dickey's company, and other Chalkley abstracts refer to Augusta County records which provide further evidence concerning the service of Joseph and his brother, Thomas Jr.

Joseph's application for a pension was finally approved and Certificate No. 23359 was issued January 17, 1834, at the Virginia Agency and mailed to him at Green Bank in Pocahontas County. On the back of Joseph's letter of December 24, 1833, a clerk in the pension office determined his annual pension of \$90 from the following calculation:

Amount:	
15 mos. period---	50
3 mos. Lieut.---	40
	<hr/> 90

Certificate 23359 indicates that he had been paid \$270 by March 4, 1834, which was the only payment before his death later that year.

The above account exhausts my present knowledge of Joseph's war service, but undoubtedly a great deal more could be obtained from additional sources. Extensive records of the Augusta County units of the militia could probably be found in the courthouse at Staunton, the National Archives in Washington, and the office of the Adjutant General of Virginia. McAllister, the files of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and other sources have abstracted the statements of pension applicants, so anyone desiring to pursue the subject further could examine the National Archives files of Virginia applicants who served in the same units with Joseph. For example, Joseph's younger brother, Thomas, also served in Captain Dickey's company and his application provides details not mentioned by Joseph. Further information could also be obtained by consulting various sources about the careers of Joseph's commanders, particularly General Lafayette.

At the end of the war, Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) was married to Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_-1820), but I do not know the date or place of the marriage. My

guess is that the ceremony took place at Mossy Creek Presbyterian Church. I do not know when nor where Elizabeth was born nor what her maiden name was. One relative wrote in 1958 that she was Elizabeth Warwick, daughter of William Warwick and Nancy Craig. Another possibility is that she was Elizabeth McKemy, daughter of John McKemy ( -1789) and sister of Jean McKemy; John mentions a daughter Elizabeth in his will and leaves three pounds to a grandson named John Waddle. But, I do not have conclusive documentary evidence for either a Warwick or McKemy maiden name. Elizabeth apparently received very little formal education, since the Wooddell papers include a deed made jointly by Joseph and Elizabeth in which she made her mark rather than signing her name, and the fact that she could not write may account in part for the lack of family papers which tell of her ancestry.

Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) and Elizabeth ( -1820) were the parents of eight children:

- 601 Thomas Wooddell  
Born August 11, 1783, Augusta County.  
Died July 1, 1860, Pocahontas County.  
Married Mary Polly Blake?, daughter of Thomas Blake & Jane Warwick, acc. to Clerk, 278.
- 602 Nancy Agnes Wooddell  
Born December 13, 1785, Augusta County.  
Died November 29, 1861, Pocahontas County.  
Married June 17, 1805, Bath County Va. to James Cooper  
(born January 16, 1780, Rockbridge County, Va.—died November 8, 1845, Pocahontas County), son of James Cooper ( -1781) & Jean McKemy.
- 603 John Wooddell  
Born August 26, 1787, Augusta County.  
Died June 10, 1865, Pocahontas County.  
Married March 23, 1820, to Mary (Polly) Slaven (died January 9, 1843), daughter of John Slaven (1760- ) & 2nd wife Elizabeth Warwick.
- 604 Joseph Wooddell, Jr.  
Born October 3, 1789, Augusta County.  
Died August 20, 1829, Beaver Township, Pike County, Ohio.  
Married Priscilla Slaven, daughter of John Slaven (1760- ) & 2nd wife Elizabeth Warwick.
- 605 Jane Wooddell  
Born October 31, 1791, Augusta County.  
Died sometime after 1835.  
Married John Galford.
- 606 Elizabeth Wooddell  
Born October 5, 1794, Augusta County.  
Died after 1860.  
Unmarried, but left a son, William B. Wooddell.
- 607 James Wooddell  
Born August 20, 1797, Augusta County.  
Died June 21, 1885, Pocahontas County.  
Married June 22, 1826, to Jane Warwick (born December 6, 1799—died March 10, 1884), daughter of Andrew Warwick ( -1821) & Elizabeth Craig ( -1832).
- 608 Margaret Jane (Peggy) Wooddell  
Born June 27, 1800, probably Augusta County.



Died November 3, 1837

Married 1819 to William Slaven (born July 6, 1798), son of John Slaven  
(1760- ) & 2nd wife Elizabeth Warwick

*died 1832? See Minton*

I am quite certain that Joseph and Elizabeth first settled in Augusta County and at least seven (if not all) of the above children were born there. Chalkley notes that in 1777 Joseph and his brother James acquired land from their parents, which was probably in the North River District of the county. Joseph and another brother (Thomas) also obtained land together, according to a document in the family papers. This document, which I assume was a copy of a deed, was dated September 18, 1798, and transferred 286 acres of land from Thomas Wooddell of Augusta County to James and Robert Curry of Augusta County, the price being 250 pounds. The land was located on "some of the watters of Thornybranch . . . part of which was conveyed to the sd. Thomas Wooddell by Thomas Wooddle Deceased and part a grant to sd. Thomas Wooddle & Joseph Wooddle". (Thorny Branch is a tributary of North River near the small village of Sangerville in the North River District of the county.)

I believe that Joseph & Elizabeth left Augusta County for what is now Green Bank, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, some time between 1800 and 1802. In 1800 the Augusta County Clerk, Charles Kinney, exempted Joseph Waddle "from the payment of Taxes, etc., on your slave", according to a receipt in the family papers. The year 1802 seems the most probably for the move, since there is a church letter in the family papers which was probably used to transfer membership from the Mossy Creek congregation to the Green Bank church during that year:

This is to certify that Joseph Waddal and his wife Elizabeth have lived in this congregation a number of years, free of Scandal, and are in full communion in the Church and that sd. J. Waddal has been a ruling Elder in the Church, by order of Session Mossey Creek April 25th 1802. Benjamin Irvin V D

At the time Joseph settled at Green Bank, the area was part of Bath County, Virginia, & thus some significant records, such as the 1805 marriage bond between James Cooper & Nancy Wooddell, are to be found in the courthouse at Warm Springs, Virginia. Green Bank became part of Pocahontas County when that Virginia county was formed in 1821, then in 1863 became part of the new state of West Virginia.

Joseph settled near the North Fork of Deer Creek (once known as Cartmell Creek) & built his log house at approximately 38° 24' 48" north latitude and 79° 49' 58" longitude, near the present home of his great-great-grandson, Mr. Forrest Wooddell (1894- ). Some years ago the old log house was torn down, but Forrest Wooddell was born there and remembers it was heated by a fire place & chimney rather than by stove & was very cold in winter. Mr. Wooddell also remembers that square portholes were cut in the walls to afford protection against Indians, but these had been plugged up by the time he was born. The house had a large porch & a separate back shed for cooking which had a stove & chimney. Still standing, however, is Joseph's smokehouse, constructed from logs & boards cut in his sawmill. Some of the squared logs are 10 inches on the front face & one of the white pine boards in the door is 17 inches in width. Though Joseph's home & mode of life may not seem comfortable to his descendants today, we know from the extensive records he kept, which fortunately have been saved by each succeeding generation, that he was relatively well-to-do by the standards of Pocahontas County in the first third of the century. These records tell us something of his land holdings, his business operations, & his daily life.

As time went on, Joseph increased his acreage. Some of the land he eventually owned was granted first to Thomas Cartmell, later to Abraham Ingram, before being granted to Joseph and James McKeny. In the Wooddell papers the earliest land grant is labeled on the outside: "JAMES MCKENY AND JOSEPH WOODDELL, 150 ACRES, BATH COUNTY, RECORDED AND X, BOOK 50, PAGE 100." On the inside, part of the document

is printed and the rest handwritten; the printed part is capitalized in the following:

I James Monroe, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING: KNOW YE, THAT by virtue of a land office treasury warrant, number seventeen hundred and eighty five issued the 15th day of February 1796 THERE IS GRANTED BY THE SAID COMMONWEALTH, UNTO James McKemy and Joseph Wooddell assignee of Abraham Ingram who was entitled to one third in his own right and as assignee of John Blankenship & John Perdue for the residue. A CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, CONTAINING one hundred and fifty acres, by survey bearing date the eleventh day of May eighteen hundred, lying and being in the county of Bath on the water of Cartmell creek a branch of Greenbrier river and bounded as followeth to wit: beginning at two chesnuts S88W 32 poles to two chesnut oaks on a ridge S11E 80 poles to two chesnut and black oak N15E 16 poles to a spanish oak and hickory corner to said Ingram and with his line N23E 118 poles to a sugar tree and red oak on a line of said Ingrams new survey and with the same S60E 10 poles to three Ironwood saplings S74E 50 poles to two chesnuts S40E 150 poles, thence leaving said line S55W 140 poles to the beginning; WITH ITS APPURTENANCES: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAID TRACT OF PARCEL OF LAND WITH ITS APPURTENANCES, THE SAID James McKemy and Joseph Wooddell and THEIR HEIRS FOREVER.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE SAID James Monroe ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, HATH HEREUNTO SET HIS HAND, AND CAUSED THE LESSER SEAL OF THE SAID COMMONWEALTH TO BE AFFIXED AT RICHMOND, ON THE third DAY OF June IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND two AND OF THE COMMONWEALTH THE twenty-sixth.

seal

James Monroe

Later deeds in the Wooddell papers indicate that Joseph bought James McKemy's share in 1813, acquired considerable additional land, & then gave parcels to each of his several sons before his death in 1834.

In addition to farming his land, Joseph used the waters of Deer Creek to provide power for a saw mill, a feed mill, a blacksmith shop, and a still. The mill races for these operations can be traced today. To keep the records for these enterprises, Joseph made an account book by folding a sheaf of paper, then sewing with heavy thread down the crease in the center. In this crude book are entries from 1813 to 1832, each with the date, the name of the customer, the goods or services provided, and the price in either dollars or pounds. Some typical entries are given because they provide information concerning the lives of the early settlers of Pocahontas County:

The following is an account of Plank Sawed for Daniel kerr in June 1814 by me Joseph Wooddell:

To 5 quarter plank	598 feet
To Inch Plank	1022
To 3/4 Plank for covering	386
To Plank for wagon body	251
To inch Plank for petition	559

.....

James Cooper, In for Sawing in 1815 & 1816:

	L	s	d
To 5/4 planks 765 feet	1	3	0
To Inch do 1053—	1	6	0
To 3/4 do 490—	0	10	3
To 15 Joice		3	0
To Scaffold & Slab Plank		3	0
To Scantling for bedsteads			

James Cooper--June 23, 1825

	L	s	d
To 1/2 Bu. Corn	0	1	6
To 2 Bu. Corn	0	6	0
To 1 Sickle	0	3	0
Cr. by Cash	0	6	0
To 2 Bu. Rye	0	6	0

June 30th 1826. David Clayton. Dn to Boarding and horse feed and stableage for his brother Richard \$5. Cr. by 2 mares to his horse at \$2.50 each--\$5.

Many other accounts are listed in Joseph's book and in the Wooddell family papers. In 1827 he drew up specifications for building a church and probably cut the required lumber. He kept cattle and entered records of their pasturing, mentions beef, hides and furs. He made five to ten pound loans of salt to neighbors, of which this entry is typical: "October 6, 1823. Lent to Elizabeth Warrick 11 lbs. Salt with the apron". He made wagon parts, bedstead parts, and frequently mentioned "cherry plank". He billed Charles Martin in March, 1825, for: "To 3 1/2 gallons Whisky, 0-10-6". In April, 1829, he let John Sutton have "one plough Sheer Weight 12 lbs. for which he was to give me the same Weight of new Iron—he paid". He also charged one neighbor for "3 1/2 days work in haytime, 0-10-6". Some other activities for which he presented bills were:

Halling wood to the lime kiln one day	0	9	0
Halling lime 2 days	1	4	0
Halling stone 2 days	1	16	0
13 days making brick	0	19	6
1 day attendance in mortar	0	3	0
18 1/2 days attendance making the Brick Kiln	0	2	3
Halling a load of shingles	0	9	0

Joseph Wooddell apparently made trips of some distance for supplies, as several shopping lists are entered. The following was "for James Cooper," his son-in-law: 3 lb. Coffee, 1 Coffee pot, 1 Pepper Box, 3 Tea Cups & Sassers, 1 wearing hankerchief, 5 yds yellow Flannel 1 yrd and half quarter wide, 1/2 lb Pepper. Other items on other lists included: 2 lb chocolate, 3 yds muslin, 6 lbs Cotton, 1 Sheet Pins, 1 small thimble, 1 Bandany hankerchief, 1 Shoehammer, 1 Sett fine Niting needles, 1 Spelling book, Some writing paper.

These records present hints as to what life was like in the early days of Pocahontas County and also show that Joseph Wooddell was active in the commerce of the region. Judging by the number of wills, deeds, and other documents he prepared for other people, copies of which are in the family papers, he must have been one of



To 5/4 planks 765 feet  
 To Inch do 1053—  
 To 3/4 do 490—  
 To 15 Joice  
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 To Scantling for bedsteads

L	s	d
1	3	0
1	6	0
0	10	3
	3	0
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To 1/2 Bu. Corn  
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0	6	0
0	3	0
0	6	0
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 1 day attendance in mortar  
 18 1/2 days attendance making the Brick Kiln  
 Halling a load of shingles

0	9	0
1	4	0
1	16	0
0	19	6
0	3	0
0	2	3
0	9	0

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the few men in the County of his generation who could write well. We know that some of his contemporaries could not write their own names (and made their marks on legal documents) and that many others could write only their own signatures. Joseph prepared two wills for himself, the first in 1822 and the second in 1832, and these documents give further evidence as to his activities and station in life. The 1822 will, in his own handwriting, reads as follows:

In the name of God Amen the Twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Twenty Two I Joseph Wooddell Senr. of the County of Pocahontas and State of Virginia being now in health of Body and of perfect mind and Memory thanks be given unto god for the Same but now I am taking a Journey to the State of Ohio and Considering that I am therefore in a particular manner Exposed to death as well as of the natural mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die I do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in the manner and form following that is all my real and personal Estate I do will and bequeath as hereafter directed Viz first my funeral and just debts to be paid and all my Lands in this County Containing three hundred and fourteen Acres more or less Lying and being in the County aforesaid adjoining the Lands of Jacob Warrick junr. Jacob Gillespie John Hogshead and others I will and bequeath to Two of my Sons that is John and James Wooddell to them and their heirs forever John Wooddell to have the Lower End adjoining Jacob Warricks Land to Begin on the out Side Line on the South Side of my Land opposite to what we Call the old Still house place and a Line from there across to the Creek that Come down through my meadow to Come past the old Still house place thence down the Creek till near the Lower End of my pasture then across the Lower End of the pasture and upon other Branch of the Creek to the South East Corner of my potato patch that is now then down the way that we Staked it towards the upper Corner of Johns new field about forty rods down from the Said Corner of the potato patch then Square across the Bottom to Jacob Gillespies Line and James Wooddell to have the upper End adjoining Jacob Gillespies and John Hogsheads Lands with the Buildings and improvements that is on it Excepting John Wooddell to have the privilege of doing his own grinding and Sawing with the mills upon Conditions that he gives Some help towards keeping them in order my Lands in the State of Ohio pike County Beaver Township Containing one hundred and Sixty acres it being one quarter Section I will and bequeath to my son Joseph Wooddell and his heirs forever upon Condition that he makes his Brother James Wooddell a rite to his part of the one hundred and Thirty Eight acres which I gave to him and his Brother John Lying in this County also I will and bequeath to my Son Joseph the following property Viz the Brown mare and Colts that has been call<sup>d</sup>. his and one Cow and Colt the Smiths anvil and Vice ax matock and hoe and a Set of plough Irons one bed and a Light wagon to move with himself to assist in providing the wagon his Brother James to assist him in providing money to move with and as Soon as would be convenient Some money to help him in improving his Land the time not to Exceed four years my Son James to have the following property the Sorral filly that has been Call<sup>d</sup>. his and roan Colt that came of Betseys mare and Cattle Sheep and hogs Sufficient for the Support of the family while Together my wagon ploughs Cross-cut Saw broad ax and Tools necessary for farming I wish to be kept on the place my house and kitchen furniture To be kept for the benefit of the family my son James to have my desk & Clock to my Daughter Elisabeth I will and bequeath as follows the Sorral mare that has been Call<sup>d</sup>. hers and the young Sorral mare that Came of her mare my walnut Chest Bed and Bedding all the coverings that She provided for her Self and if She Lives to alter her Station of Living I allow her to have five or Six head of Cattle five or Six head of Sheep dresser furniture and Some pots all her own Cloaths and necessary articles Else not mentioned I wish her to have a peaceable Living in my house while in the Station that She is as She has been Very good to me Since her mothers death my Cloath I wish to be divided Equally amongst my four sons my wife that was I allow her Cloaths to be divided Equally between my Three daughters that is here as Jane

According to the James & Jane Wooddell family Bible, Elizabeth died on April 6, 1820, & her husband Joseph died on July 26, 1834. The date of Joseph's death is confirmed by a letter giving the same date in his file at the National Archives. The place of Joseph & Elizabeth's burial is not known. Forrest Wooddell was able to locate the graves of the slaves because his father, many years ago, had pointed out the spot, but he does not remember ever being shown where his great-great-grandparents were buried.

Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834) file at the National Archives in Washington, D. C., is S. F. 11883. His brother, Thomas Waddell (1759-1839), spelled his name differently; his file is 11697.

Books Cited:

- Chalkley, Lyman. CHRONICLES OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH SETTLEMENT IN VIRGINIA. 3 volumes. Rosslyn, Virginia: Commonwealth Printing Co., 1912-1913. Abstracts from the original court records of Augusta County, 1745-1800.
- Price, William T. HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA. Marlinton, West Virginia: Price Brothers, 1901.

My present address (1968) is: Dr. Homer C. Cooper, 145 Pendleton Drive, Athens, Georgia 30601. Any change in my address can be obtained from: Alumni Office, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, or Alumni Records, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. I would welcome hearing from you at any time.





1711- JOHN ADAM ROUSH-178  
 EMIGRANT FROM DARMSTADT, GERMANY. I  
 EARLY SETTLER OF THE SHENANDOAH VAL  
 1713- HIS WIFE, SUSANNAH-179  
 PARENTS OF NINE SONS WHO SERVED TH  
 COUNTRY IN THE CAUSE OF INDEPENDEN  
 1741-PHILIP ROUSH-1820 — 1742-HENRY ROUSH  
 1743-JOHN ROUSH-1815 — 1746-JACOB ROUSH-  
 1749-DANIEL ROUSH-1832  
 1753-ELEANOR ROUSH (WADDELL) 18  
 MARY MAGDALENE ROUSH (ZIRKL  
 1758-ELIZABETH ROUSH (NEASE) 1  
 1761-GEORGE ROUSH-1845 — 1763-JONAS ROUSH-  
 THEIR DESCENDANTS LIVING AND DE.  
 NUMBER ABOUT 40,000 AMERICAN CITIZEN  
 RECORDS OF THE FAMILY AVAILABLE I  
 MOST LIBRARIES.

ERECTED IN 1906, THE BICENTENNIAL OF  
 EMIGRATION TO AMERICA BY THE ROU  
 AND ALLIED FAMILIES ASSOCIATION O  
 AMERICA, INC.

1870

GEBOHREN

JOHANNES

RAUSCH

GESTORB

1890

1711-JOHN ADAM ROUSH-1788  
EMIGRANT FROM DARMSTADT, GERMANY, A  
EARLY SETTLER OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY  
1713-HIS WIFE, SUSANNAH-1788  
PARENTS OF NINE SONS WHO SERVED THE  
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AMERICA, INC.



145 Pendleton Drive  
Athens, Georgia 30601  
September 13, 1976

The Editor  
The Pocahontas Times  
Marlinton, W.Va.

Dear Editor:

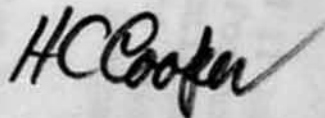
I am a subscriber to the Times, which I enjoy very much, and notice that you have been publishing from time to time in this Bicentennial year sketches of early citizens and events in Pocahontas County.

Therefore I attach a copy of my March 1970 revision of a paper concerning Joseph Wooddell (1752-1834), an early settler in the Green Bank area, for your consideration.

Please feel free to publish as much or as little as you wish, or none at all. I recognize that an editor must decide what to exclude as well as what to include, so no hard feelings if you decide that the Joseph Wooddell paper is not what you want. But I do want you to have a chance to make a decision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "HC Cooper", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Homer C. Cooper

I have a similar, but shorter, paper concerning James Cooper (1780-1845) of Green Bank, if that would be of interest.

Joseph Wooddell was my great-great-great-grandfather.

fired at the enemy that attracted their attention when they sent a fusillade of bullets wounding him through the hip. He fell mortally hurt. Joe Hull, William Payne, Preston Wooddell, and myself met for the last time on the morning of the day that he lost his life.

(Signed) MATTHEW JOHN MCNEEL"

Preston acquired two 100 acre tracts of land in the 1850's, located on the South Fork of Deer Creek (Rosin Run), both of which were sold by the Administrator of his estate to Claiborne Ashford. Preston's heirs were assigned Lot # 1 (73 acres) in the partition of the 610 acre tract deeded to the heirs of Preston's father by Jacob Bible. On 1 May 1888, this lot was sold by the heirs to B. F. E. Wooddell.

Preston and Harriet were the parents of six children, all of whom were born on the South Fork of Deer Creek (Rosin Run).

\*131121 Delilah Elizabeth Wooddell, born 6 Jan 1854.

\*131122 Madora Frances Wooddell, born 6 Nov 1855, died 11 Apr 1932.

131123 Joseph Reece Wooddell, twin, born 8 Apr 1858, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV), died 17 Jan 1863, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV). Buried in the family plot on the South Fork of Deer Creek (Rosin Run), Pocahontas Co., WV. The hand chiseled inscription on his native stone grave marker has the death date as indicated above. Some family records list the death date as "17 Jan 1865".

\*131124 Albert Smith Wooddell, twin, born 8 Apr 1858.

131125 Oscar Brison Wooddell, born 1 Apr 1860, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV), died 7 Nov 1863, Pocahontas Co., WV. Buried in the family plot on the South Fork of Deer Creek (Rosin Run), Pocahontas Co., WV. The listed birth date is from the Pocahontas County Birth Register and the death date from his hand chiseled native stone grave marker. Some family records indicate: Birth, 11 Apr 1860; death, 11 Nov 1862.

\*131126 George Preston Davis Wooddell, born 12 May 1862, died 20 Nov 1951.

131121 Delilah Elizabeth Wooddell (Preston, Joseph, Thomas, Joseph, Thomas), born 6 Jan 1854, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV). Married (1) 6 Jul 1872, Upshur Co., WV, George S. Riffle, widower, born 1815, Randolph Co., VA(WV), son of George and Susanna Riffle. Delilah E. lived with her grandmother, Delilah Wooddell Pugh until the latter died in 1870. On 11 Nov 1870, she was placed under the guardianship of William J. Wooddell, but migrated to Upshur Co., WV soon afterwards to live with her Aunt Mary Blake Wooddell Knapp. Delilah and George were the parents of two known children. Delilah married (2) 23 Dec 1885, Upshur Co., WV, Perry H. Johnston, widower, age 56, born in Lewis Co., VA(WV), son of Richard and Elizabeth Johnston.

\*1311211 Penelope A. Riffle, born Circa 1874.

\*1311212 Mary B. Riffle, born Circa 1879.

1311211 Penelope A. Riffle (Delilah, Preston, Joseph, Thomas, Joseph, Thomas), born Circa 1874, Upshur Co., WV. Married 2 Aug 1892, Upshur Co., WV, Rudolph Burkley, age 29, born Germany, son of Adolph and Josaphine Burkley.

1311212 Mary B. Riffle (Delilah, Preston, Joseph, Thomas, Joseph, Thomas), born Circa 1879, Upshur Co., WV. Married 10 Jun 1895, Upshur Co., WV, Fred Heiser, age 23, born Germany, son of John and Mary Heiser.

131122 Madora Frances Wooddell (Preston, Joseph, Thomas, Joseph, Thomas), born 6 Nov 1855, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV), died 11 Apr 1932, Pocahontas Co., WV. Buried in Dunmore Cemetery, Dunmore, Pocahontas Co., WV. Married (1) 11 Jun 1872, Pocahontas Co., WV, Charles Lowe, physician, born 1844, in Ireland, died by gunshot 1 Jan 1874, Pocahontas Co., WV, son of Edward and Julia Lowe. Charles was shot by his brother-in-law, Albert S. Wooddell, a minor. Madora was enumerated in the

13112 Preston William Hank Wooddell (Joseph, Thomas, Joseph, Thomas), born 15 Aug 1832, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV), died 8 Nov 1864, Martinsburg, VA(WV). Burial site unknown. Married 16 Sep 1852, Pocahontas Co., VA(WV), Harriet Rhodes Adkison, born 1828, died 16 Dec 1862 (Family source)/23 Jan 1863 (Grave marker), daughter of Abel Adkison. Harriet was buried in a small family plot on the South Fork of Deer Creek (Rosin Run), Pocahontas Co., WV. This small cemetery was desecrated by timber logging operations and only four native stone grave markers are intact. A letter from Preston to his mother and step-father, dated 17 Jan 1863, makes two separate inquiries about the health of his children but does not mention his wife, which points to the possibility/probability that Harriet did indeed die on 16 Dec 1862 and the children were in the care of their paternal grandmother on 17 Jan 1863. The hand chiseled inscription on her native stone marker lists the date of death 23 Jan 1863.

Preston, a house-joiner and farmer, enlisted in Co. F, 19th Virginia Cavalry, CSA, at Hillsboro, Pocahontas county, on 1 Apr 1863 according to official records; however, the letter referenced above, dated 17 Jan 1863, indicated he was already a member of the Confederate forces at Hillsboro. His military record in the Virginia State Archives lists the following:

P. W. H. Wooddell, 4th Corporal, Co. F, 19th VA Cav. Enlisted 1 Apr 1863, Hillsboro, VA(WV) by Col. W. L. Jackson. Term, 3 years.

Muster, dated 29 Feb 1864 - Last paid by Capt. Locke on 1 Dec 1863.

Muster, dated 31 Oct 1864 - Wounded and captured 22 Sep 1864.

Admitted to Sheridan D. Hospital, Winchester, VA from field on 24 Sep 1864.

Diagnosis: Very serious thigh wound.

Transferred to General Hospital, Martinsburg, VA(WV), 12 Oct 1864. Admitted, 19 Oct 1864.

Wound: Compound common fracture of thigh, upper third.

Operation: Amputation of upper third, thigh, circular operation.

Result: Died 8 Nov 1864; exhaustion. Age 25.

Surgeon: W. S. Love, Provisional Army, Confederate States.

A letter from a comrade-in-arms, Matthew John McNeel, written 6 Jan 1937 to Preston's youngest child, George Preston Davis Wooddell, follows. Some of Mr. McNeel's recollections were not exactly correct. It is understandable that his comrades thought Preston had died on the battlefield.

"My Dear George and Elizabeth,

Uncle John rode over on horse back one day last week. We got our heads together and wrote up the enclosed paper in behalf of your father's memory . . .

Preston Wooddell, Sr. was a Civil War soldier and belonged to the 19th VA Cavalry. The officers of this Regiment were General Jubal Early and Col. W. T. Thompson who commanded the Regiment. Capt. William L. McNeel, 1st Lt. George W. Siple, 2nd Lt. Woods Price and 3rd Lt. John J. Beard. Preston Wooddell was killed at Fisher's Hill, VA on Sept. the 19th, 1864. So far as is known he died on the battlefield and was buried there. He was an honest man, a fine citizen, and a brave and fearless soldier. His comrades, Bill Sheets, the Hartman boys, the Hull boys, etc. were a gallant band of men and belonged to the "Wild Cat" men. The Battle of Winchester, VA lasted all day. As the soldiers fell back towards Fisher's Hill, they were given mattocks and shovels to throw up breastworks. We worked all night to be ready for the enemy the next morning - and but for some desultory shelling - back and forth - on the morning of the 19th, the real battle did not begin until late in the day and continued until sundown. We were ordered to go "double quick" to the help of our men on the left as the enemy had captured our breastworks. Reinforcements of fresh troops were rushed in so rapidly by the enemy that we had no time for order or adjustment. Our men were weary to the point of exhaustion. They were not commanded to fire - but Preston thought they had been and when he



Whitman and Rodgers Families  
of  
New York  
and  
Greenbrier County, West Virginia

by

Homer C. Cooper  
145 Pendleton Drive  
Athens, Georgia 30601

February 24, 1968

GEORGE WHITMAN (possibly Robert Whitman)  
Died before 1793, probably in Orange County, New York.

PHEBE (maiden name not known) WHITMAN  
After her first husband's death, Phebe brought her family to what is now Whitman's Draft, Greenbrier County, West Virginia, about 1793. I believe that Phebe was married for the second time in 1803, Greenbrier County, to Robert Buckhannon. Her maiden name may have been Holly.

Children of George & Phebe:

1. Julia Whitman\*  
Married 1797, Greenbrier County, to Christopher Foglesong (1762-1846).
2. Ann Whitman\*  
Married 1797, Greenbrier County, to Thomas Masters.  
Where did Thomas & Ann settle?
3. GEORGE WHITMAN  
Born during 1775-1784 in New York (probably Orange County). Died about 1826 in Greenbrier County. I think--but cannot prove--that he was the George Whitman who married an Elizabeth Rodgers in 1804 in Greenbrier County.
4. William Whitman  
Born 1779, Goshen Township, Orange County, New York, according to William T. Price, HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, Price Brothers, Marlinton, 1901, page 378. Died 1852, Greenbrier County, W. Va. Married 1807, Greenbrier County, to Elizabeth Erwin.
5. Andrew Whitman\*  
Married 1808, Greenbrier County, to Elizabeth Prince.  
Where did Andrew & Elizabeth settle?
6. Holly Whitman  
Died in Jackson County, Ohio, about 1825. Married 1811, Greenbrier County, to Sally Ervin.
7. Phebe Whitman  
Born about 1791 in New York (probably Orange County). Died May, 1866, Greenbrier County, W. Va. Married 1815, Greenbrier County, to James White. Phebe's death record, which gives New York as her birthplace, is Greenbrier County death register 1-A, page 60, line 32.

\*Proof is lacking that Julia, Ann, and Andrew were members of this family. They are included because their names recur in many branches of the family.

Evidence that our New York ancestor was George Whitman rather than Robert Whitman: (1) Phebe Whitman White (1791-1866) death record states that she was born in New York, daughter of George & Phebe Whitman. (2) The 1790 Orange County, New York, census lists a George Whitman but not a Robert

Whitman. (3) The fact that George is a much more common name than Robert in the Whitman family.

However, there is one piece of evidence which suggests that Robert is our ancestor. In 1911, Mr. William Henry Hull (1844- ) wrote a letter to Miss Katie Whitman (now Mrs. L. H. Hines) in which he stated: " . . . my great-grandfather Robert Whitman (my recollection is that his name was Robert) sold out his possessions in New York State . . ." I believe that the evidence for George is stronger than for Robert, but welcome additional information on this point.

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GEORGE WHITMAN

Born during 1775-1784 in New York (probably Orange County). Died about 1826 in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Settled at Whitmans Draft near Alvon in Greenbrier County.

ELIZABETH RODGERS

Died about 1826 in Greenbrier County. Probable wife of our George Whitman; in any event, a George Whitman & Elizabeth Rodgers were married in 1804 in Greenbrier County, Josiah Osborne officiating.

Greenbrier County deed book 20, page 298, December 30, 1853, proves that George Whitman was the father of Julia & Rebecca (below), but does not prove that he was the same George Whitman who married Elizabeth Rodgers in 1804.

Children of George (and Elizabeth?): (all born in Greenbrier County)

1. Andrew M. Whitman\*

Born about 1802. Died 1865, Nicholas County, W. Va. Probable name of wife: Eliza Ann (maiden name not known).

2. William Whitman

Born 1806. Died 1858, Nicholas County. Perhaps was the William Whitman who married Isabella Hoover in 1828 in Greenbrier County. We know that he married Margaret Donaldson in 1833 in Greenbrier County, but not whether this was a first or second marriage.

3. George Whitman

Born 1807. Died 1864, Whitmans Draft, Greenbrier County. Married 1847, Greenbrier County, to Mary Perkins.

4. Robert Whitman

Born 1809. Died 1876, Nicholas County. Married 1839, Greenbrier County, to Elizabeth Freshman (1818-1898).

5. Rebecca Whitman

Born 1810. Died 1895, Ritchie County, W. Va. Married (when? where?) to George W. Middleton (1801-1876).



6. Jesse Whitman\*  
Born about 1811. Probably the Jesse H. Whitman who married Elizabeth Buzzard in 1844 in Greenbrier County. Does anyone know where Jesse & Elizabeth settled?
7. John Whitman\*  
Born about 1814. Does anyone know whom John married and where they settled? May have been the father of William Wallace Whitman (1846-1916), whose death record in Nebraska gave his father's name as John Whitman and who addressed Rebecca Whitman Middleton as "Dear Aunt" in a letter written in 1891 from Stanberry, Missouri.
8. James Whitman  
Born 1815. Died 1885, Logan County, W. Va. Married about 1834 (where?) to Mary Ann Richards (1816-1886).
9. JULIA ANN WHITMAN  
Born 1817. Died 1903, Gilmer County, W. Va. Married in 1836 in Pocahontas County, W. Va., to James Harvey Cooper (1810-1881), son of James Cooper (1780-1845) & Nancy Agnes Wooddell Cooper (1785-1861). Harvey & Julia were the great-grandparents of Homer C. Cooper of Athens, Georgia.  
  
NOTE--Julia should not be confused with her first cousin, Julia Ann Whitman (1830-1903), daughter of William Whitman (1779-1852) and wife of William Smith Hull (died 1898), to whom she was married in 1846.
10. Holly J. Whitman  
Born about 1821. Died 1894, Nicholas County. Married 1854, Pocahontas County, to Mary Elizabeth Ewing (1836-1910).

\*Proof is lacking that Andrew M., Jesse, and John were members of this family. Andrew M. Whitman is included because his death record in Nicholas County gives his parents as George & Elizabeth Whitman; however, the age at death in the same death record would place his birth earlier than the marriage of George & Elizabeth in 1804; so Andrew's parentage is unresolved.

Jesse and John are included with this family because ABSTRACTS OF COUNTY COURT RECORD BOOKS--GREENBRIER COUNTY--1828-1865, a typescript volume examined at the State Department of Archives & History, Charleston, W. Va., gives the following two abstracts:

May Court 1828: "Administration of the estate of George Whitman is granted to William Whitman." Typescript (not original) page 200.

May Court 1828: "Jesse Whitman an orphan about 17 years of age and John Whitman an orphan about 14 years of age, made choice of William Whitman their Guardian for the purpose of binding them to suitable Trades which said proceedings are sanctioned by the Court and ordered according without bond." Typescript page 204.

Further evidence that Jesse and John were probably the children of George

Whitman (died about 1826) comes from the will of Robert Buckhanan (sic) of Greenbrier County, which was written in 1835 and probated in 1836 in Pocahontas County (Will Book 1, page 475). Robert devises: "I give to Jesse Whitman the boy I raised one feather bed & Bedding & should said Jesse Whitman marry before my decease I allow him one cow & if not married I dont allow him the cow." (Jesse probably did not get the cow. As noted earlier, a Jesse H. Whitman married Elizabeth Buzzard in 1844.) Robert goes on to give the balance of his estate to Thomas Kerr, who served as bond for Julia Ann Whitman when she married James Harvey Cooper in 1836. I assume that this Robert Buckhannon is the same man who was the second husband of Phebe Whitman, probable grandmother of Jesse.

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### QUESTIONS

Dr. Homer C. Cooper, 145 Pendleton Drive, Athens, Georgia 30601, would be grateful for more information concerning any of the above Whitmans from Orange County, New York, and Greenbrier County, West Virginia. If I ever move from Athens, my current address can be obtained from the Alumni Office, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, or Alumni Records, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

1. Phebe Whitman was the mother of George Whitman (born during 1775-1784; died about 1826). WHAT WAS THE GIVEN NAME OF WHITMAN, FIRST HUSBAND OF PHEBE AND FATHER OF GEORGE? DO WE HAVE A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL OF PHEBE'S OTHER CHILDREN?
2. WAS HOLLY THE MAIDEN NAME OF PHEBE WHITMAN? At least eight of Phebe's descendants have had the given name Holly. In addition, Israel Holly sold land in Greenbrier County to Phebe in 1802 (Deed Book 2, pages 548-549) and Moses Shepard and wife Mary Holly sold land to George Whitman in 1805 (Deed Book 3, page 312). The Whitman and Holly names were intertwined.
3. WHEN (during 1775-1784) AND WHERE (somewhere in New York) WAS GEORGE WHITMAN BORN? WHEN DID HE DIE (about 1826, according to family tradition. He was alive when the 1820 Greenbrier County census was enumerated and his executor was named in May Court 1828)? We would like to have more exact dates for him.
4. WAS OUR GEORGE WHITMAN THE ONE WHO MARRIED ELIZABETH RODGERS IN 1804? WHO WERE ELIZABETH'S PARENTS?
5. CAN WE PROVE THAT ANDREW M., JESSE, AND JOHN WERE THE CHILDREN OF GEORGE WHITMAN (died about 1826)? See the evidence presented earlier, which is far from conclusive.
6. In 1853, several of the children of George Whitman (died about 1826) deeded

for \$1 their interest in their father's land on Whitmans Draft to their brother, George Whitman (1807-1864); see Deed Book 28, page 347. The children and spouses who signed were: James H. & Julia Ann Cooper and George & Rebecca Middleton, who signed in Ritchie County; Robert & Elizabeth Whitman, William & Margaret Whitman, and Holly J. Whitman, who signed in Nicholas County. In addition, provision was made in the original (now in the hands of Mr. William Huston White, Alvon, W. Va.) for James Whitman of Logan County to sign; James did not sign and therefore he is not listed in the copy at the courthouse.

However, John & Mary Foglesong, James & Phebe Carr, and James & Phebe White, all of Greenbrier County, also signed the 1853 deed. WHY? WERE THEY ONCE THE GUARDIANS OR REPRESENTATIVES OF EARLIER GUARDIANS OF THE ORPHANS OF GEORGE WHITMAN (died about 1826)? WHY WERE THEIR SIGNATURES NECESSARY WHEN ALL OF THESE ORPHANS WERE OVER 21 LONG BEFORE 1853? I shall discuss what we know about the Carr, Foglesong, and White families involved.

KERR and CARR. We know that a Thomas Kerr signed Julia Ann Whitman (1817-1903)'s marriage bond in 1836 just before her marriage to James Harvey Cooper (1810-1881) in Pocahontas County; and that Thomas was the executor and principal beneficiary of the will of Robert Buckhannon. (Recall also that Robert "raised" Jesse Whitman.) CAN WE FIND EVIDENCE IN POCAHONTAS COUNTY OR GREENBRIER COUNTY THAT THOMAS KERR WAS THE GUARDIAN OF JULIA ANN WHITMAN?

We also know that some of the KERR family spelled the name CARR. WERE JAMES & PHEBE CARR SIGNING IN 1853 AS THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THOMAS KERR? This idea, for which I am grateful to Mr. George B. Arbuckle, is consistent with other evidence: (1) Thomas Kerr (born about 1801) & wife Elizabeth Foglesong (born about 1801) and family are found in Household 450 of the 1850 Pocahontas County census. According to Price's history, page 377, Thomas & Elizabeth "settled where James Kerr now (1901) resides, near the road to the top of Alleghany." (2) James Kerr & Phebe Foglesong were married in 1826 in Greenbrier County. In Household 144, White Sulphur Springs Township, of the 1870 Greenbrier County census are James Kerr (born about 1800) & wife Phebe (born about 1807) living in the household of Samuel & Elizabeth Gardner. In the next household is Thomas Kerr (born about 1827), probable son of James & Phebe. (3) In passing I should mention that the cemetery of the Augusta Stone Presbyterian Church, Fort Defiance, Virginia, contains the grave of a James Kerr (1800-1877), but I do not know whether he was "our" James Kerr/Carr of Greenbrier County.

The above evidence shows that the Kerr or Carr guardianship hypothesis is feasible, but does not prove that Thomas Kerr adopted Julia Ann Whitman after the death of her parents.

FOGLESONG. The John & Mary Foglesong who signed the Whitman deed in 1853 appear to have been John Foglesong (born about 1817) and wife Mary Dyche, who were married in 1840 in Greenbrier County, and were living with their children in subsequent Greenbrier censuses. I wish I knew why they were parties to the 1853 deed.



WHITE. James & Phebe White, the other two signers of the 1853 deed, were James White (born about 1787) and wife Phebe Whitman (1791-1866), who were married in 1815 in Greenbrier County. They lived on Whites Draft, the stream above Whitmans Draft. Since Phebe was the sister of George Whitman (died about 1826), James & Phebe would have been logical guardians for orphans of George. Their oldest child was George White (born 1816), perhaps named for George Whitman.

Any new evidence on any of the above six questions or any other Whitman information would be much appreciated.

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Early Whitman deeds in the Greenbrier County courthouse at Lewisburg include:

<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Year</u>
2	548	1802
2	549	1802
3	312	1805
23	278	1860
1	347	1793
2	551	1802
20	298	1853
20	299	1853
28	347	1853

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Mr. William Huston White, Alvon, West Virginia, is a great-grandson of George Whitman (1807-1864) and great-great-grandson of George Whitman (died about 1826). He now owns the Whitman homestead at Whitmans Draft and many valuable old Whitman documents. We are all indebted to him and his wife Merle for their kind assistance and generosity.

Too many others to list here have also been helpful. However, I would particularly like to thank: The late Mrs. Edna L. Campbell, Summersville, W. Va.; Mr. Andrew Lewis Riffe, Alderson, W. Va.; Mr. Charles Shetler of West Virginia University; Mr. & Mrs. Vern O. Whitman of Charleston, W. Va.; Mr. James Clark Middleton, Petroleum, W. Va.; Mr. Newman L. Whitman, Summersville, W. Va.; Mr. Okey L. Bales, Parkersburg, W. Va.; Mr. George B. Arbuckle, Bethesda, Md.; and Mrs. Hall F. Wilson, Coxs Mills, W. Va. In mentioning these, I am undoubtedly unfair to the many others who also helped.

Homer C. Cooper  
145 Pendleton Drive  
Athens, Georgia 30601

February 24, 1968

# WOODZELL FAMILY RECORD

Stephen Woodzell  
Dinah Wright

Born August 8th, 1793  
Born November 14th, 1802

Stephen Woodzell and Dinah Wright were married April 8th, 1820,  
Arrived in the United States from England June 20th, 1827.

To the above union the following children were born.

Stephen Woodzell	Born March 11th, 1821, died July 6th, 1825
Dinah Woodzell	Born May 29th, 1823, died May 16th, 1826
Sarah Woodzell	Born June 24th, 1827, died March 29th, 1826
Ann Woodzell	Born September 17th, 1828
John Woodzell	Born November 30th, 1830, Lost May 30th, 1864
William Woodzell	Born March 2nd, 1833
Elizabeth Woodzell	Born February 25th, 1835
James Woodzell	Born February 19th, 1837
Benjamin Woodzell	Born March 5th, 1839
George Woodzell	Born September 10th, 1842
Daniel Woodzell	Born July 1st, 1846

William F. Strong	Born December 10th, 1803
Julia Risk Strong	Born May 11th, 1811
Diana F. Strong	Born February 18th, 1836
Christia A. Strong	Born November 29th, 1837
Jane K. Strong	Born May 9th, 1839
A son who died with out name	Born May 29th, 1841
Esther A. Strong	Born May 22nd, 1842
Mary A. Strong	Born June 22nd, 1844
Roxey A. Strong	Born May 26th, 1846

James Woodzell and Esther A. Strong were married May 15th, 1860.  
To the above union the following children were born.

William George Woodzell	Born April 5th, 1861
Sophia Ann Woodzell	Born August 18th, 1863
Stephen Risk Woodzell	Born July 23rd, 1865
John J. Woodzell	Born February 13th, 1868
Cherry Woodzell	Born May 16th, 1870
Homer A. Woodzell	Born March 20th, 1873
Lenard W. Woodzell	Born September 3rd, 1876
Edward A. Woodzell	Born July 24th, 1878
Charles Woodzell	Born May 5th, 1883
Grover M. Woodzell	Born August 29th, 1888

Esther A. Woodzell died July 28th, 1891

James Woodzell and Denize Morris were married April 13th, 1892.

Clara Bell Henry Born June 29th, 1863, died November 21st, 1906

William George Woodzell and Clara Bell Henry were married July 3rd, 1890

To the above union the following children were born.

Howard Henry Woodzell	Born July 14th, 1891
Guy William Woodzell	Born July 29th, 1894

John Stephen Bennett (Grandson of James Woodzell) Born May 11, 1886

Sophia Ann Woodzell married Martellina B. Bennett

Children:

Henry Herman

John Stephen

Edward

Eliza

Howard B.

DESCENDENTS OF ANDREW AND MARGARET SUSAN CUTLIP PERRY.

Andrew Perry b.Oct.3, 1851. d.Dec.11, 1929. Clawson Cemetary Married  
Margaret Susan Cutlip b.Nov.7, 1855. d.Feb.10, 1886. Ruckman Cem.

Children-

John  
Albert Francis  
Elzina  
Melvina

John Perry b.Oct.10, 1875. d.Feb.20, 1951. Clawson Cem. Married  
Minnie Elizabeth Friel b.Sept.30, 1865. d.Nov.16, 1964. Clawson Cem.

Children-

Flora Lawrence b.Oct.4, 1897. d.May 8, 1986. Staunton, Va.  
Dennis William b.Aug.21, 1899. d.Feb.09, 1976. Ruckman Cem.

Albert Francis Perry b.Oct.31, 1880. d.Sept.30, 1954. McCutcheon Cem. Married  
Margaret McCutcheon b.Sept.24, 1883. d.Aug.28, 1946. McCutcheon Cem.

Children-

Norval b.July20, 1903. d.Apr.2, 1977. McCutcheon Cem.  
Orie Everette b.Feb.26, 1905. d.Feb.20, 1986. Rising Sun, Md.  
Thurman Lake b.June11, 1907. d.Oct.27, 1923. McCutcheon Cem.  
Lena Rachel b.July24, 1910. d.Aug.10, 1918. McCutcheon Cem.  
Nellie Frances b. Nov.28, 1913  
William Simpson b.Apr.18, 1916  
Baby Boy b.Sept.23, 1918. d.Sept.27, 1918. McCutcheon Cem.  
Anna Pearl b. Nov.13, 1919.  
Baby Girl b. and d. April 17, 1923. McCutcheon Cem.  
Edna Mae b.July 3, 1924  
Mary Elizabeth b.Aug.12, 1929

Elzina Perry b.Dec.21, 1878. d.Feb.16, 1963. Clawson Cem. Three marriages.

(1) H. Lester Divorced 1902.

(2) George Sylvester Payne b.( ) d.Dec.5, 1918. Cottle Hill Cem.

(3) John S. Woods b.( ) d.Feb.8, 1932. Family Cem. Cottle, W. Va.

Four children by Payne-

Clarence Lafayette b.( ) d.Aug.31, 1910.  
Nancy Agnes b.Dec.8, 1905. d.Jan.8, 1986.  
Florina Belle b.Apr.19, 1908. d.( ) Clawson Cem.  
Vergie Lea b.May 5, 1913. d.( ) Clawson Cem.

Melvina Perry b.Apr.3, 1883. d.Jul 19, 1968. Buckhannon Cem. Married  
Jan.8, 1908.

Daniel T. Tharp b.Oct.11, 1885. d.Dec.13, 1951. Buckhannon, W.Va. Childred-  
Paul b.( ) d.( ) Cemetary? Beulah  
Layton L. b.Nov.10, 1911. d.( )  
Lela Bernice b.June 7, 1914.

To best of my knowledge there were 20 grandchildren, 10 of whom are living  
and 39 great grandchildren, 38 living.



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**JOHN WEBB.**

John Webb, the subject of this biographic article is a character about whom it may be said, as was said about Melchizedek, he was without father or mother—so far as any biographical purpose can be served. His Irish brogue and his habit of saying not foolish things and never doing anything very wisely, tended to corroborate what he always averred—that he was of Irish nativity. He had the papers showing that he was an honorably discharged soldier of the Revolution, and as a pensioner received ninety-six dollars a year. How he ever came to Pocahontas is simply conjectural, but from the fact he chose his place of rest near Mount Zion, he must have had some acquaintance with parties that may have been in the army when he was.

This Revolutionary veteran, though he exposed his life for independence, never owned any land and never married. Yet he wanted a home of his own, a place where he could lay his head and feel at home, which was very commendable in him. He received permission of William Moore, son of Pennsylvania John Moore, to use without rent as much land as he might want for a cabin, garden, and “truck patch.” He built himself a cozy cabin, and opened up two or three acres, where he produced corn, vegetables, and poultry. On this he subsisted, with the assistance of his pension and such wages as he could earn in harvesting and haying for the farmers on Knapps Creek. This spot was on the place recently owned by Ralph Dilley,

and now in the possession of William Moore.

One of John Webb's favorite places to work in hay-making and harvest was at Isaac Moore's. At this period making hay was a long, tedious industry. One morning quite early as the hands gathered in the meadow when Webb, to use his own expression, came up missing, it was surmised that he had worn off his "wire edge" on the hot sun the day before, and was about to give it up for the time being, and so the hands went to work. Between nine and ten o'clock they heard his jovial brogue in the direction of the apple cellar, and upon looking in that course Webb's head was seen, "red as a beet," peering over the comb of the cellar roof. He inquired in the most impassioned manner whether any one would like to have a "dhrink ave cither." It seems Webb knew where to look for the lost "wire edge," and had indulged his thirst until he was so much exhilarated as to climb the roof with nimble feet and willing hands, and from his lofty perch invite others to share with his jovial comforts that he had been finding for the past hours in "dhrinks ave cither."

This Revolutionary veteran had one of his arms very curiously tattooed between the wrist and elbow with the initials of his name and emblematic characters like anchors and arrows, whose significance was not known. This was done while he was in the army, and several other soldiers were tattooed at the same time. The chemicals used disabled them so much that a regimental order was issued prohibiting the practice. Tattooing seems to have been a fad among soldiers and

sailors. If anything should happen, their personality might be identified and assistance obtained from some guild or fraternity. At least, this was the supposition. He never disclosed to any one what the characters symbolized. The initials of course could speak for themselves. It is commonly believed now that he served with the troops from Augusta County under General Mathews.

In the later years of his life John Webb was very piously inclined and was demonstrative of his religious emotions, and was long remembered as the life of many "good meetings" at old Mount Zion, Frost, and elsewhere. He would frequently have "the jerks," which was such a feature in the revival services so common at the time. As long as he lived he would always have a spasmodic jerk as he repeated the "amen," even when asking a blessing on his meals.

This phenomenon, that characterized the religious services of most of the denominations a hundred years ago in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia; has been attentively considered by mental experts as one of the curiosities of the emotional faculty of the human race. What surprises them in their investigations is to find some of the most pronounced examples of its influence among the Mohammedan Dervishes in the East, and in the West it seems to have been the most striking feature in the Indian Ghost Dances but a few years since. The Dervishes furiously deny the existence of the Holy Ghost as a fiction of Christianity; and American Indians have never so much as heard that there is a Holy Ghost. Max Nordau, a Jewish scientist thinks



he has found the explanation to be a disease of the nervous system that is so highly infectious as to sweep the whole round of humanity at recurring periods.

John Webb remained in his bachelor home until he became disabled by the infirmities of advanced age. Then it was the late Martin Dilley, of revered memory took charge of the old veteran; He built a very comfortable cabin for his use in the yard near his own dwelling, and cared for him until the old soldier "fought his last battle" on the borders of the unseen world. This building is standing yet. His grave is in the Dilley Grave yard, on the line between the Andrew Dilley and John Dilley lands.

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### WILLIAM BAXTER.

Among the worthy citizens of our county deserving of special mention was William Baxter, near Edray, W. Va. He was born on Little Back Creek, in 1808. He was the eldest son of Colonel John Baxter, whose name appears prominently in the early history of Pocahontas County. His mother was Mrs Mary Moore Baxter, a sister of Joseph Moore of Anthonys Creek. She was a very industrious and careful housekeeper, and diligently trained her children in habits of industry and economy.

At an early age his parents moved to Pocahontas County, and resided a good many years at the Sulphur Spring. Being the eldest son, he worked hard in assisting to support the family, consisting of four sons and three daughters. His sisters were Mrs Jane

person of great physical endurance, a noted hunter, and an industrious, laborious farmer. One of the incidents coming to us by tradition, illustrating what manner of man he was, is related in the Arbogast sketches. A panther had been driven by dogs up a very lofty, densely branched hemlock, at night. A torch of pine was prepared, and the fearless, agile man ascended the tree, torch in hand, until he could locate the game. Upon doing this he laid the torch on two limbs and descended until he could reach the flintlock rifle, carefully primed and charged. He then returned to his torch and by its light shot the panther.

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### JOHN YEAGER, JUNIOR.

The relationship bearing the Yeager name is at present mainly represented in our county by the descendants of John Yeager, of the third remove from the pioneer John Yeager. Hence this paper will be mainly devoted to the home history of his descendants.

John Yeager's wife was Margaret Arbogast, granddaughter of Adam Arbogast, the pioneer of the east branch of the Greenbrier. Soon after his marriage he settled on the homestead, now known as Camp Alleghany. The sons were William Asbury, Henry Arbogast, Brown McLauren, Paul McNeel, and Jacob Reese. The daughters Eliza Ann, Fannie Elizabeth, Sarah Jane, who died aged 13 years; Eveline Medora, Leah Alice, and Emma Mildred.

Eliza Ann became Mrs A. M. V. Arbogast and lives on the east branch of the Greenbrier, near the north-

ern limits of the county. Her home is widely known.

Fannie Elizabeth is now Mrs James D. Kerr, and lives at the Kerr homestead on Salisburys Creek.

Eveline Medora was married to Josiah O. Beard, and now lives near Greenbank. Her children are Irbie, Leslie, Arthur, Brown, Monroe, Blanche, Bertie, Bertha, Ruby, Nellie Bly, and Margie. Monroe and Blanche are twins, also Bertie and Bertha. Mr and Mrs Beard had their home on the upper Greenbrier. Blanche died of membranous croup, in her father's absence, and the house being isolated by deep water, the mother could get no assistance from the neighbors on that sad day. In a field near the present home Arthur was caught in a shower. He first sheltered under a wagon, but as it leaked so much he ran to a neighboring tree and was instantly killed by lightning. His brother Irby was near and saw it all.

Leah Alice and her brother Jacob Reese died of diptheria. They were among the first victims of this drehd malady in our whole county, so far as there is any record.

Emma Mildred first married Michael O. Beard, and settled in Texas. He died at Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs Beard's second marriage was with W. P. Ledbetter, of Georgia. She then settled in the Indian Territory, at Ardmore, where she died a few years since. Her children, Clyde Yeager Beard and Veva Ledbetter, are in the motherly care of her sister Mrs Eliza A. Arbogast.

Emma Mildred Yeager had a passion for learning, and was very popular in society and greatly esteemed for her attractive character. She had about completed



the course of study at Winchester for a literary degree with marked distinction. Had it not been for circumstances over which the brilliant young student had no control, she would have been the first lady from our county to be thus honored.

William Asbury Yeager was a Confederate soldier in the 31st Virginia Regiment, and was killed at Hatcher's Run, Feb. 6, 1865. He was in the battle of Winchester, September 19, 1864, and when the engagement was over seventeen bullet holes were found in his clothing, but he did not get a scratch. The impression prevails among those who remember him that he was in all the engagements with the 31st, unless it was at Gettysburg, at which time he was in a Staunton hospital. He had but one furlough during the war.

Henry A. Yeager married Luverta Beard, of Greenbrier County, and settled at Camp Alleghany. His children were Eula Joe, recently deceased, who was the wife of Dr J. M. Cunningham, of Marlinton; Maud Leps, named for Rev J. C. Leps, the chaplain of the 31st Virginia Regiment, now Mrs R. C. McCandlish, cashier of the Pocahontas Bank; Sallie Glenn, now Mrs S. B. Scott, of Marlinton; Walter H. lives in Cheyenne, and is a clerk in the employ of the Union Pacific Railway. His wife was Mabel Tupper. William Edgar Yeager died while holding the position of paymaster's clerk at Washington. At the same time he pursued a course of medical studies, and had about finished with credit half of the four years prescribed course when his health failed. He died Nov. 26, 1896. Paris Dameron Yeager spent some years

at Cheyenne, Wyoming, in the service of the Pacific Express Company and the Continental Oil Company.

Hon H. A. Yeager was a Confederate soldier in the 31st Virginia Regiment, and was in all the engagements except when disabled by wounds. He has represented his county in the legislature, and was special agent of the National Land Office during the first Cleveland administration, and was stationed at Cheyenne, Wyoming. He was among the first to boom Marlinton.

Brown McLaurin Yeager married Harriet Elizabeth Arbogast, and they live at Marlinton. Their children are J. Walker Yeager and Lewis A. Yeager, lawyers; Dr John M. Yeager, Sterling, Bruce, and Paul McGraw, and the daughters are Daisy, now Mrs W. B. Sharp; Texie, Brownie, and Goldie. Mr Yeager is local manager for the Pocahontas Development Company. He has surveyed many thousand acres of land in Pocahontas and has served as commissioner of school lands.

Paul McNeel Yeager married Huldah Arbogast and lives on the pioneer homestead opened up by Adam Arbogast. His children are Pearl, Lucy, Mamie, Jewell, Frederick, and Clinton. He has a great reputation as a hunter. His portrait in hunting garb and a sketch of his exploits have appeared in one of the hunting journals.

John Yeager, the third, was a person of more than ordinary endowments. By a patient course of studies, mainly self directed, pursued at times when he could get an hour's leisure from manual labor, he became

qualified for the duties of a surveyor. He was deputy surveyor for a number of years, associated with Sampson L. Mathews, who was the first surveyor of Pocahontas County. He was in subsequent years associated with Colonel Paul McNeel and George Edmiston in searching for vacant lands, and under their direction made entries comprising acres that even now have a fabulous sound in our ears—as to their extent and numbers.

When Colonel Rust, of the 3d Arkansas Regiment, became acquainted with Mr Yeager he was so favorably impressed by his intelligence and experience as to select him for the perilous duty of reconnoitering the Federal fortifications on the summit of Cheat Mountain. The Colonel left his encampment in the most secret way possible, and with John Yeager as pilot and solitary companion, approached the Federal encampment unobserved and succeeded in passing into and throughout the garrison, made careful observations of the character and position of the defence, and withdrew without arousing suspicion as to the purpose of their presence in the camp. With the knowledge thus obtained, Colonel Rust planned the assault he soon after attempted to make, but owing to high water and other obstacles, time was lost, and the Federal officers were thus enabled to learn what was going on, and they made preparations accordingly. When this became apparent to Colonel Rust he withdrew without making the assault, as had been so skillfully planned at the extreme personal risk of himself and his trusted guide, John Yeager.



A few months after this perilous adventure John Yeager died, December, 1861, aged 48 years. When the battle of Alleghany was fought in that same month the balls seemed to fall like hail upon the roof, but none of the inmates were touched.

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### ABRAM DUFFIELD.

The first cottage prayer meeting the writer remembers was at the home of Abram Duffield. Early one Sabbath in May, the writer's parents with their four children came to the Duffield home to attend the meeting that had been announced. No one had yet arrived when we reached the place. Upon entering the porch voices were heard within as if persons were engaged in reading or prayer. Standing by the door and listening we found that it was the venerable Abram Duffield reading to his invalid wife the account given by Saint Mathew of our Redeemer's temptation in the wilderness. He was reading at the moment where it is written: "He shall give His angels charge concerning thee and in their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Then she remarked: "Oh, that is so good; how encouraging it is for poor me." Finally the venerable man resumed and then prayed after reading. "Then the Devil leaveth him, and behold angels came and ministered unto him. Then again the same one observed: "Oh, how good to hear that our Lord gained the victory. How safe it makes one feel to have him for our Saviour who is so loved by the angels." There seemed to be

characters of Nathaniel Kinnison and Davies Poage were considered, the impression prevailed there were different ways in which people could be warm hearted, genuine Christians, and so there was mutual respect and lovely Christian fellowship.

For many years Mr Edmiston was a pillar in the M. E. Church, and the secret of his influence was his lovely Christian deportment. Nathaniel Kinnison was also a pillar in the M. E. Church, but his piety was that developed in the calm retreat, the silent shade, that seemed to him by God's bounty made for those who worship God—so suitable for personal prayer and praise to the unseen though ever present one.

When far advanced in life Mr Edmiston vacated his old pleasant home amid the gently rolling lands and pleasant groves for a home on Hills Creek, and his last days were spent amid the inviting scenes that surround the place where Daniel Peck now lives.

The writer feels grateful that he ever knew this good old man, even to a slight extent, and may the time never come when the presence of persons of like Christian fervor, generous, liberal, fraternal impulses cease to exist, for should such a dire calamity befall the county then envy, strife, confusion, and many evil works will be tolerated—all in the name too and for the sake of religion.

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### JOHN YEAGER, SENIOR.

For well nigh a hundred years the Yeager name has been a familiar one. The Yeager relationship derive

their name from John Yeager, an imigrant from Pennsylvania, reared near Lancaster City. From the most authentic information available for these notes, he first located in Crabbottom. Upon his marriage with Anise Hull, a granddaughter of Peter Hull, one of the original settlers of the Crabbottom section, they settled at Travelers Repose, where Peter D. Yeager now resides.

In reference to John Yeager's family the following particulars have been obligingly furnished by the Hon. H. A. Yeager, one of his well known descendants.

John Yeager, Junior, went to the far west, and settled finally in Illinois; and his descendants are scattered widely over the great Northwest.

Jacob Yeager married Sarah Hidy, of Crabbottom, and thereupon he settled on what is known as Camp Alleghany. In his time he ranked among the most extensive land owners in that whole region. His claims comprised many thousand acres, embracing the 'Dutch Settlement' and other tracts contiguous. His sons were John, Joel, Jacob Brook, and the daughters were Jane, Elizabeth, Anna, Caroline, Margaret, Catherine, Christine, and Serena. In reference to his daughters the following particulars are in hand.

Jane became Mrs Joel Vest, and lived in Iowa.

Elizabeth was married to Colonel John Bonnett, and lived in Lewis County. Her sons Jefferson and Asbury Bonnett are prominent citizens. Sarah Ann Bonnet became Mrs Wasley Crookman and lives at Cowen. Serena Catherine Bonnett became Mrs Eber Post, and lives near Hackers Creek, in Lewis County. Caroline became Mrs Rhinehart.